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**CALIFORNIA CRACKER**  
COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb  
tins, and loose.  
Soda BISCUITS.  
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## Small HOMINY.

Cracked WHEAT.  
OATMEAL.  
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Hongkong, June 14, 1884. 981

## For Sale.

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By E. J. BATEL.

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HONGKONG, 1877-1883.

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characters in practical use, and while alphas-

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of the oldest dialect of China, the Can-

tone, it gives also the Mandarin pronun-

ciation of all characters explained in the

book, so that its usefulness is by no means

confined to the Cantonese Dialect, but the

work is a practically complete Thesaurus of

the whole Written Language of China, an-

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to the student.

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and used by itself, and containing a List

of the Radicals, an Index, and a List of

Surnames, will be published and sold

separately.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, January 15, 1883. 151

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Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, May 28, 1884. 485

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## Notices to Consignees.

**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.**  
GERMAN BANK PAPERS, Capt. KOHLER,  
FROM HAMBURG.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above  
Vessel are hereby requested to send in  
their Bills of Lading, to the Undersigned  
for countersignature, and to take immediate  
delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be  
landed and stored at Consignees' risk and  
expense.

SIEMSEN & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, July 19, 1884. 1194

## STEAMSHIP NATAL.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per Steamship  
Natal, from London, in con-  
nection with the above Steamer, are  
hereby informed that their Goods—with  
the exception of Opium, Treasure, and  
Tobacco—are being landed and stored at  
their risk at the Company's Godowns,  
whence delivery may be obtained imme-  
diately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on,  
unless intimation is received from the Con-  
signee before 2 o'clock TO-MORROW (Wednes-  
day), requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after FRIDAY,  
the 1st August, at Noon, will be  
subject to rent and landing charges at 1  
cent per package per diem.

All Claims must be sent in to me before  
the 2nd August or they will not be recognised.  
No Fire Insurance has been effected.

I. MARTIN,  
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, July 23, 1884. 1220

## To-day's Advertisements.

FOR NAGASAKI.

The Steamship  
Haverford,  
Capt. S. W. WOODMAN, will be  
despatched for the above  
Port TOMORROW, the 26th instant, at  
Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SIEMSEN & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, July 25, 1884. 1224

## FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship  
Yangtze,  
Capt. F. SCHULTZ, will be  
despatched for the above  
Port TOMORROW, the 26th instant, at  
4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SIEMSEN & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, July 25, 1884. 1226

## OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.  
(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates  
for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEW-  
CHANG, HINGPO, and  
Ports on the YANGTZE.)

The Co's Steamship  
Larles,  
Capt. S. W. WOODMAN, will be  
despatched as above TO-  
MORROW, the 26th July, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, July 25, 1884. 1233

## Vessels Advertised as Loading.

Destination. Vessels. Captains. Agents. Date of Leaving.

Bombay, via Straits. Kasgar (s). P. & O. S. N. Co. July 26, at 3 p.m.

Bombay, via Straits. Kasgar (s). P. & O. S. N. Co. August 2, at 3 p.m.

Bombay, via Straits. Kasgar (s). P. & O. S. N. Co. August 1, at 4 p.m.

Cape Town, &c., via Singapore, Kennell (s). T. M. Irvine. August 1, at 4 p.m.

London, via Suez Canal. Hecator (s). Billing. July 26, at 4 p.m.

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London, via Suez Canal. Hecator (s). Billing. July 26, at 4 p.m.

London, via Suez Canal. Hecator (s). Billing.

claiming it as his own, to this bit of territory, and regarding the Germans a little soil, on which to found their first Colony.

It is said that when two or three of the French men-of-war at Foochow proceeded to positions higher up the river a few days ago, the French Admiral was not at all sure that his vessels would not be fired upon, especially as the movements on shore looked suspicious. The crews were beat to quarters and the guns were run out. It was an exciting moment, and an eye-witness of the scene tells us he expected every instant to see cannon balls and shells flying about. But no hostile act was committed by the Chinese, and of course the French Admiral did not commence hostilities. The drilling and manoeuvres of the Chinese soldiers at the Foochow forts are said to be simply ludicrous. They act just like children playing at soldiers. One company will make a pretended attack upon a building something like a pagoda. The soldiers both outside and inside the building yell, sing sticks with flags attached to them at each other, but a variety of independent orders, and the defenders, after throwing their flags at their assailants below, frequently jump down among them. Warriors of this sort would be a very feeble show before Admiral Courbet's guns.

Among the telegrams which have been forwarded to us by the steamer which arrived from Australia to-day, will be noticed one stating that England has at last agreed to assume a protectorate over New Guinea, the Australian Colonies jointly contributing £15,000 yearly towards the expense of maintaining the requisite staff of officials there. Of course such a protectorate is equivalent to, if not stronger than, annexation, for it practically means both annexation and colonization. The island was bound to become British property sooner or later, owing to its proximity to Australia, and the fact that the waters of that most important channel of communication—Torres Strait—wash its shores; and perhaps it is just as well England has taken this step at once, although it means more work and expense for the Colonial Office, and in our opinion there was not the faintest chance of any other country venturing to lay hands on the soil. The Australians cannot possibly want the territory at present, as they have far more valuable land in Queensland than they can possibly occupy for many years to come.

A correspondent of the *Straits Times* writes:—During the present outbreak of hydrophobia in Singapore, a few lines on the early symptoms of rabies in the dog may be of use; especially as they do not correspond entirely with the symptoms of hydrophobia in man.

Amongst the earliest symptoms are unusual silliness, rigidity, and continual shifting of position. Another early symptom is a peculiar delirium; the dog perhaps springing up and giving an angry bark at some imaginary object.

A constant early symptom is change of voice, which may take place in two ways:—as a hoarse croak, or as a combination of a perfect bark, ending abruptly and very singularly in a howl.

Other symptoms, observed at the commencement of the disease, are loss of appetite, propensity to lick cold surfaces, such as a stone or iron, and to devour straw and other rubbish; and peculiar eagerness in scenting at and licking the corners of rooms, and other places. There is no dread of water as in the human being; there often being an insatiable thirst.

The saliva is at first increased in quantity, but this increases some pace off, and the secretion becomes exceedingly viscid and sticky, sticking to the corners of the mouth, and annoying the poor dog extremely; who may be seen fighting with his paws at the corners of his mouth.

The amount of ferocity displayed by rabid dogs varies greatly, some biting every man and beast in their way; while others show an increased fondness, and are perpetually trying to lick their owners' hands and faces; hence, care should be taken that there are no abrasions of the skin where a suspicious dog has been allowed to lick, and if it, those should be cauterized at once.

It is of importance also to note that hydrophobia may communicate to the bite of an animal in health, or of one merely stricken, may not cause the disease; it is very certain, at all events, that the bite of an animal will prove fatal long before it exhibits any outward symptoms of rabies.

The usual duration of rabies is from four to six days; and it may infect the cat, horse, sheep, and other animals.

The following telegrams are taken from Australian papers:—

London, June 26.—The Right Hon. Earl Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Right Hon. H. C. E. Childers, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will represent England in the Conference which meets in London on Saturday to consider Egyptian affairs. The British will be represented by Mr. Waddington, the French Ambassador at the Court of St. James, and M. de Bignon, who represented France in Egypt during the dual control.

London, June 26.—Medical experts differ in their opinions as to whether the recent outbreak of cholera at Toulon is sporadic or Asiatic cholera. Several additional deaths have occurred.

Increasing alarm prevails at Toulon, in consequence of the outbreak of cholera, and one quarter of the population have fled from the city. Eight deaths from the disease occurred on Thursday.

London, June 26.—Sir Stafford Northcote having given notice in the House of Commons of his intention to move at an early

date that the Anglo-French agreement for the solution of the Egyptian difficulty is neither calculated to tend to the peace of Egypt, nor that its provisions justify England in guaranteeing a loan on behalf of that country, Mr. Robert Arthur Anderson, Liberal Member for Suffolk, has given notice of his intention to move as an amendment that the House withhold its opinion until the financial proposals are disclosed.

London, June 27.—Mr. Gladstone will meet the vote of censure to be moved against the Government by Sir Stafford Northcote with a direct negative.

London, June 26.—Mr. H. Murray Smith, Agent-General for Victoria, is again urging upon the Colonial Office the desirability of an immediate settlement of the question in regard to the annexation of New Guinea.

London, June 26.—Mr. Lovell, the eminent French jurist, asserts that the Anglo-French treaty does not permit the extradition of escaped recidivists.

London, June 26.—The death is announced of the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, the well-known Independent minister.

London, June 27.—Two escaped convicts from New Caledonia, who were stowaways on board the barque *Bertrand*, have been arrested at Swansea on the arrival of the barque there. The prisoners have been handed over to the French authorities to be dealt with.

We have received the results of four more matches played by the Australian Eleven in England, up to the 10th of the present month. It will be seen that out of these four matches the Australians have won three, while the fourth was drawn. The Eleven are evidently doing better than they have done hitherto.

The Australian Eleven beat the Liverpool Eleven with one wicket to spare.

They won the match with the Gentlemen of England by 46 runs.

The Players of England were defeated by the Australians with six wickets to spare.

The match between the Australian Eleven and Huddersfield resulted in a drawn game.

The only detailed account of any of these matches we have been able to obtain was that with the Gentlemen of England, commenced on June 26:—

London, June 26.—The fourteenth match of the Australian Eleven was commenced at Kennington Oval to-day against the Gentlemen of England. The weather was splendid, and the ground was in excellent condition, and the match attracted the greatest interest. An excellent wicket had been prepared, and the ground generally was in first-rate order for cricket.

The following constituted the Home team:—C. T. Studd, S. C. Harrison, E. J. Dyer, W. Grace, Lord Harris, P. Lucas, W. W. Read, A. W. Ridley, W. E. Rorer, A. G. Steel, F. T. Wellman. Murdoch was the toss, and elected to send his men in.

McDonnell and Bannerman being the first batsmen. The latter was unsuccessful, however, being bowled after scoring 3. Murdoch took his place, and some fast play ensued before McDonnell was bowled for 15. Giffen, the next batsman, only scored 2, when he was taken at the wicket. Palmer was the next man, and soon afterwards Murdoch was bowled, having 11 to his credit. Scott joined Palmer, but the latter was caught after scoring a single. Bonnor followed, and was also caught without having increased the Australian tally. Blackham, however, came to the rescue, and a comfortable stand was made, the second batsman, bowled for 16. Midwinter partnered Blackham, and a splendid display of cricket ensued, both men playing really in fine style, until Blackham was given out L.b.w. for 69. Spofforth caught 7, and Boyle, caught and bowled 21, succeeded in dismissing Blackham, carrying out his task for 63 after a splendid innings, during which he never gave the Englishman a single chance. The folding of the home team was rather weak, so real players being let off easily. The principal bowler was S. C. Harrison, who took 8 out of 10 wickets, at the cost of 40 runs only, the remainder being made of the other bowlers. The Australians' total for the innings was 229 runs.

After a short interval the Australians went into the field, Grace and Studd representing England at the wicket. Studd was bowled out for 10, and Lucas, who came next, was bowled for 18. Read then joined Grace, and when the stumps were drawn the Gentlemen had 91 runs for the loss of two wickets, Grace being 46 and Read 11, each not out. The following are the scores:—

AUTUMNAL ELEVEN—FIRST INNINGS.  
Bannerman, b. . . . . 3  
McDonnell, b. . . . . 15  
Murdoch, c. . . . . 3  
Giffen, c. . . . . 2  
Palmer, b. . . . . 1  
Scott, b. . . . . 10  
Bennett, b. . . . . 0  
Blackham, b.w. . . . . 0  
Midwinter, not out. . . . . 60  
Spofforth, c. . . . . 21  
Boyle, c. b. . . . . 7  
Studd, c. . . . . 4  
Total . . . . . 229

Bowling Analysis:—Christopher, 8 wickets for 80.  
Gentlemen by England—FIRST INNINGS.  
Grace, not out. . . . . 10  
Studd, b. . . . . 10  
Lucas, b. . . . . 18  
Read, not out. . . . . 11  
Studd, c. . . . . 6  
Total, with two wickets down 91

**SUPREME COURT.**  
IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.  
(Before the Hon. J. Russell, Puisne Judge.)  
Friday, July 25.

JAMES RANGEL v. H. S. COHEN.  
Mr D. Caldwell appeared for the plaintiff and explained that defendant had guaranteed the payment of the amount of the judgment which plaintiff had obtained against Mr. Abraham, late proprietor of the "Straits Times," the claim being for the difference in the price of certain shares which Abraham had contracted to deliver to Rangel at a certain date and failed to do so.

Plaintiff was put into the box, and produced the share certificates, which he saw defendant sign in Mr. Caldwell's Office on the 20th June.

The note runs as follows:—"In consideration of your suspending execution of the writ of execution issued herein until the 1st day of July next, I hereby guarantee and promise to pay the payment of the sum of £250.00, being the amount of the judgment herein in and before noon of the said 1st day of July, Mr. Abraham shall abscond, file a petition in bankruptcy, register a composition deed, or die, or in case a creditors' petition be filed against him. For the consideration aforesaid I further promise and guarantee to you the payment of the said sum if Mr. Abraham do not present himself at the office of Mr. Caldwell, solicitor, No. 50 Queen's

Road, at 15 minutes before noon on the 1st day of July next."  
30th June, 1888. H. S. Cohen.  
"To J. Rangel, Esq."

Plaintiff said Abraham absconded the day after this note was made; he had seen him since in Manila. He had received none of the money. Mr. Cohen had asked him for times, and plaintiff had said he would accept half of the amount at once, and wait for the other half if defendant would do so. Plaintiff had declined to pay the expense. Plaintiff had never waived any of his rights.

In reply to defendant's questions, plaintiff said that he had consented to square the matter if defendant paid half the amount at once. What he had consented to was that if defendant paid half the amount at once and agreed to pay the lawyer's expenses, he would not press him for the other half but give him time.

Defendant said he had paid half the money into Court, and that plaintiff had agreed to square matters if he would pay half the amount. Defendant had said to plaintiff after Abraham went away: "I will give you £100, because I am a poor man, and in reply to this offer, plaintiff said he would give him half the amount (of the claim). I will let you go." Defendant was very valuable, and it was difficult to make out exactly what he said. The purpose of it appeared to be that after the compromise just mentioned, plaintiff had intended defendant to also pay the lawyer's expenses, and that after going first from the plaintiff to Mr. Caldwell, and from Mr. Caldwell to the plaintiff, he had paid half the amount into Court and then the action was brought.

His Lordship to defendant:—Is that the only defence you have? Even if Rangel did say what you say he did, there is no consideration. It is of no use; you have made your bed and there you must lie. You have guaranteed this man Abraham to do certain things, and he has not turned up, and therefore Rangel is entitled to sue you. The fact of his saying that he would let you go for half the amount cannot bind him in Court because there is no consideration. I must enter judgment against you on such agreement. It might be wrong, very immoral, of Rangel if he did what you say he did, but I see no grounds for postponing the case to let you bring more evidence because there is no consideration. If you say you are not like this, you must bear the consequences.

Defendant:—But I have not got any money to pay.  
His Lordship:—I can't help you. I enter judgment for the amount with costs if you are asked for.

Mr. Caldwell said his client had requested him to ask for costs. He did not wish to press for them himself.  
Costs were accordingly given.  
Defendant went out of Court moaning that he was a poor man, and had no money to pay.

**IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.**  
(Before Sir G. Phillips, Chief Justice.)  
Friday, July 25.

**SENTENCING OF PRISONERS.**  
This morning His Lordship the Chief Justice sentenced the prisoners who were found guilty on Tuesday last.

Tang Atak and Wong Aik, men who were found guilty of having 17 dually attacked and robbed a junk while on her way from Pinang to Hongkong, were each sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

His Lordship said the evidence of the prosecutor was that the prisoners and others had fired several shots, and the prosecutor said that he and his crew below and robbed him. That prisoner had asked for mercy, but he should have thought of the consequences of his act before he did so. His Lordship said the usual one in all these cases, and His Lordship saw no reason to alter it in this case.

An old woman, who was in Court, came forward and knelt down on the floor and supplicated on behalf of the first prisoner, who claimed to be her son. Her supplications were of no avail.

The woman who was indicted on two charges, one of maliciously wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm and the other of simple wounding, and who was convicted on the second count, was sentenced to two years' hard labour. His Lordship said the jury had believed the prosecutor's evidence, they would have brought the prisoner in guilty on the first count, and he would have received a much sorer punishment. Prisoner had attacked the prosecutor with so much force that the man's arm was fractured, and he was in danger of losing his life. Even if prisoner's story was true, namely that he struck in self defence, there was no reason for his assaulting the prosecutor in the violent manner he did.

**Police Intelligence.**  
(Before A. G. Wise, Esq.)  
Friday, July 25.

**BRANCH OF BERNARD'S ORDINANCE.**  
Mr. George Bernard, solicitor, was summoned by the Acting Registrar General to neglecting to report change in tenancy of the first floor of No. 7, Aberdeen Street, which he is householder.

Charles Osmund, first clerk in the Registrar General's office, gave evidence to the effect that in January a man named Ho Hung Yau was reported as tenant of the first floor, and, according to a receipt produced, Mr. Bernard received rent from one Wong Shan Ting up to June 30th. Witness had now found out that Li Wo is at present in occupation. Ho Hung Yau was still on the register.

Ho Yik, attorney to Mr. Evers, stated that Ho Hung Yau rented the first and second floors of the house, but with a found that he had sublet to Wong Shan Ting. On July 22nd he went to report that the second floor had changed tenants. He had heard that Wong Shan Ting had been arrested and was not in the Colony. In witness's absence Ho Hung Yau let to Wong Shan Ting.

Defendant was fined £5.

**AN INSOLVENT CHINAMAN.**  
Cheo Kwok-in, a cook, of No. 2 Bridges Street, appeared on a summons charging him with unlawfully using threatening and abusive language towards Charles Bond, whereby a breach of the peace might have been committed, on the 24th inst. He had heard that Wong Shan Ting was a bill collector. On the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m., he was with his wife and two daughters, listening to the Band at Murray Barracks. They sat down upon a seat on which two Chinamen were sitting. Defendant, who was the man nearest to complainant, began using disgusting language. Complainant remonstrated, whereupon defendant said, in English, "you no belong mandarin, what for you sit down by me you got damned son-of-a-bitch." Complainant's wife walked away and defendant assumed a fighting attitude. Complainant told him to go away or he would give him in charge.

Defendant stated that he was sitting on the seat with his friend when complainant

came up and raised his stick and told him to go away, which he refused to do.

In answer to this complainant stated that he did not speak a word to defendant until he was insulting.

Sung Yuk Lan, defendant's friend, said he was sitting down with defendant when complainant and two ladies came up. He got up from the seat but defendant did not. Complainant told defendant to go away but he would not. Complainant then slapped defendant and took him in custody.

Defendant was fined £5.

**A CONFIRMED THIEF.**  
Au Atai, bricklayer, appeared on remand on a charge of stealing clothing to the value of 8s, the property of a woman named Shat Wan, on the 18th inst. The case was proved against defendant and also eight previous convictions and he was sentenced to six months' hard labour, the first and last fourteen days to be in solitary confinement.

The six months to commence at the end of a sentence of six months which defendant is now undergoing for a former larceny.

**Before E. Mackenzie, Esq.**  
**ASSAULT.**  
Chung Ahing, a painter, was convicted of assault on the 24th inst. The Po Lok theatre and assaulting Chung Keng Up, a ticket collector employed at the theatre, on the 24th inst. Defendant attempted to enter the gallery of the theatre without a ticket and on being stopped by the ticket collector, struck him two blows on the mouth. Six previous convictions for larceny from the person, larceny, &c., were proved against the defendant and he was now sentenced to six months' hard labour, the first and last fourteen days to be in solitary confinement.

**Gossip about Sulu.**  
(Contributed by one who has been there.)  
The island of Sulu is situated at the South end of the Philippine group, to which, however, it does not properly belong. Sulu is volcanic and has an area of about 240 square miles. The virgin soil is dark brown in color and very rich; most of the ground is undulating; the hills are remarkable for their regularity of shape, and towards the capital (Maimbung) some of the hills are cultivated to the very top in well lined patches, and they are no inconsiderable feature of the panoramic view obtained from the deck of a steamer.

It is usual to hear Sulu spoken of as a pearl of an island; "a gem of a place," etc., by those who have been there. Comparatively little is known of it, but it is safe to predict that it will play an important part in eastern commerce; in fact it does a lot of trade now, but so steadily and quietly and in one direction that little is known of it. Spain has put her finger on one part of the island—Jolo, pronounced Yolo—where she has built a citadel on the water with a wall around. Out of this stronghold no Spaniard can at times venture alone. Sometimes parties are made with a large company armed to the teeth, for such is the hatred with which the Spaniards are regarded by the Sulus (who are always armed) that no opportunity is lost of spilling their blood. So Jolo is guarded with unceasing vigilance; but notwithstanding the vigilant guard the Spaniards enjoy, with generally one or two men-of-war in port, and the apparent impudence of attacking them without modern warlike appliances, now and then the green flag is unfurled and these fanatics attempt to drive the intruder into the water, using no better weapons than old muskets and the native kris. After one of the last attacks of this kind, the soldiers who were removing the dead bodies from the walls discovered no less than seven women who had shaved their heads and marched shoulder to shoulder with the men on Jolo.

The climate of Jolo leaves little to be desired. There is a fine area of country for the enjoyment of the residents, who relieve the monotony of their existence with an occasional bull fight, or cock fight. The music of a very decent brass band can also be enjoyed there; game abounds, and both deer and bear can be hunted. The necessity for a Spanish occupancy of the island is on account of the alleged piratical tendencies of the Sulus, whose fame in this respect is not confined to the Philippine coasts. A Chinaman in Sandakan is asking the Borneo Government to give him redress in the matter of a schooner and cargo taken by Sulu pirates. Two of the schooner's crew escaped, but five others were butchered. The schooner has been identified in Sulu, notwithstanding some important changes made in her. An interesting feature in this case is the reported complicity in it of the late Sultan. Some of the stolen cargo is said to have been conveyed to the palace. Sulu is the residence of the Sultan and the seat of government of all the islands of that group, except that part of Sabah (Borneo) which has been leased to the British North Borneo Company, the Sultan claiming sovereignty over it. A Suluian is altogether unlike his neighbours, the Philippines, in physique, temperament, language and religion. The colloquial is not unlike the Malay, but a good authority has assured me that it is a mixture of Arabic; their written character is Arabic, and Mahomet is their prophet. There are quite a number of Hadjis amongst them and the late Sultan twice made the pilgrimage to Mecca. The Suluian is after the Malay type, but is generally shorter, more active, and, falling all other methods, may be known by his embroidery. The art of embroidery is much cultivated by the ladies. Both sides of the article are alike, and the preference is usually given to geometrical patterns. Every article of dress is profusely decorated by those who can afford it. Their costume is picturesque in the extreme, being a slight departure from the Turkish.

Every Suluian wears a kris (a huge knife), to which they as a rule attach a fabulous value. Every kris has a blood-curdling history. I went to view the place but was much disappointed with it. In front there is a fairly good stretch of lawn. The Sultan's palace, nearly opposite to the Sultan's, is the better one of the two. Under a shed were a couple of carriages, a gig and a phaeton, both very good but going to ruin for want of looking after. Ylang-ylang to curiosity, I looked over the fence of the Sultan's place and saw a lot of little naked royal bloods running about. Some rather pretty girls were also dressing their hair, and the Sultan's uncle was practicing music on an accordion. I was to have interviewed the late Sultan but he was again suffering a relapse of the complaint of which he afterwards died. A friend of mine, who was present, told me that during his interview a guard stood alongside him with a musket as if about to strike, only waiting a wink from his Royal Highness to do so. He was informed that it was only court etiquette and that no harm was intended him, but he assured me that it considerably shortened the interview.

The Sultan, Sultana, ladies (nobles) and most Sulus have a great dread of poison—the only thing, I believe, they really fear. Had this not been so the late Sultan might be yet alive, but he was too afraid of any medicine. The office of taster can hardly be a desirable one, yet not a single house of any pretensions is without one.

(To be concluded.)

**THE COLQUHOUN-HALLET EXPLORING EXPEDITION.**  
Mr. Editor:—I have just returned from a trip from Chienngai to Chienngai and Chienngai, thence back to Chienngai to Maung Phan, Maung Penang, Maung Ngaw, Maung Lakoon, Maung Lapoon to Chienngai. It was made in company with Mr. Holt S. Hallet, and an old friend, Rev. Dr. Cushing of the Northern Shan Baptist Mission, Burmah, who accompanied Mr. Hallet as friend and interpreter.

Mr. Hallet, as you are aware, is engaged on an expedition of Mr. Colquhoun and his own in exploring and surveying the route for the proposed Railway which is to connect Bangkok with the Northern boundary of Siam, and to have a branch to Mandalay and perhaps Rangoon, British Burmah.

Will you allow an outsider who has no connection with the enterprise to express an opinion in advance in order to direct the attention of the public to the importance of the subject and bespeak an interest in the great enterprise in which Messrs. Hallet and Colquhoun are at present engaged.

I need not state that I had no official connection with the expedition, I was merely invited to accompany the expedition with the hope that my knowledge of the Northern Siamese or Laos dialect and my acquaintance with the people and rulers in the North Laos provinces, might be of service to the expedition. I was in the company of a few weeks of my time mainly to aid, as far as I could, this enterprise of the age. Considering its prospective influence on the civilization and development of the whole of South-eastern Asia, and its probable, if not certain, extension into China, I verily believe it may be classed with the Suez Canal and the great American Pacific Railway as one of the grand works of the century.

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